

**Remarks/Arguments**

No claims have been amended or cancelled by this response. Claims 8-20, 22, 23 and 25-27 are pending in this application.

Claims 8-20, 22, 23, and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Auslander (US 2003/0005303) in view of Jauert (US 6,776,544). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present application was filed on October 28, 2003. Jauert issued on Aug. 17, 2004, from application serial number 10/614,476, filed on Nov. 3, 2003. Since the present application has an earlier filing date than Jauert, Jauert is not prior art with respect to the present application and therefore any rejections that utilize Jauert are improper. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 8-20, 22, 23 and 25-27 is improper and should be removed by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are now in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Brian A. Lemm/  
Brian A. Lemm  
Reg. No. 43,748  
Attorney of Record  
Telephone (203) 924-3836

PITNEY BOWES INC.  
Intellectual Property and  
Technology Law Department  
35 Waterview Drive  
P.O. Box 3000  
Shelton, CT 06484-8000